

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 31 and 41, as follows:

31. (Currently Amended) An implantable retainer, deliverable via an elongate tubular delivery device for retaining vaso-occlusive device in an aneurysm, comprising:

(a) a core wire having a proximal end and a distal end,

(b) a joint extending between the distal end of the core wire and at least one array element, said joint being electrolytically severable upon application of a suitable current to said joint, said joint being comparatively more susceptible to electrolytic severability than said core wire and said at least one array element, and

(c) a retainer assembly comprising said at least one array element, said retainer assembly having a first delivery shape when retained within said elongate tubular delivery device and having a distal delivery end and a proximal delivery end, and a second deployed shape configured for retaining a vaso-occlusive device in the aneurysm, said second deployed shape being different than said first delivery shape when said retainer assembly is not retained within said tubular delivery device and having a distal deployed end and a proximal deployed end, said at least one array element extending outwardly from said joint and having a contour that resembles a shape of the aneurysm in said second deployed shape, and wherein after electrolytic severance from said core wire said retainer assembly includes a residual joint.

32. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said core wire is covered with an electrical insulation layer from near its proximal end to near its distal end.

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33. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said at least one array element comprises platinum.

34. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said at least one array element comprises tantalum.

35. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said at least one array element comprises stainless steel.

36. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said at least one array element comprises a super-elastic alloy.

37. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein at least a portion of said at least one array element is covered by radio-opaque material.

38. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 37, wherein said radio-opaque material is platinum.

39. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein when said retainer assembly is in said second deployed shape, each of said at least one array element terminates remotely from said joint.

40. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein when said retainer assembly is in said second deployed shape said residual joint is distal to said proximal deployed end.

41. (Currently Amended) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein when said retainer assembly is in said second deployed shape, and said residual joint is on said proximal deployed end.

42. (Previously Added) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said proximal deployed end is distal to said proximal delivery end when the retainer assembly is in the second deployed shape.

43. (Previously Amended) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said secondary deployed shape approximates the shape of a vascular aneurysm.

44. (Previously Amended) The implantable retainer of claim 31, wherein said retainer assembly encloses a volume and wherein said retainer contains a helically wound vaso-occlusive device.